

County Formation
(Notes from Chapman Collection)

FILE OF WIGHT LIBRARY
SOUTHFIELD BRANCH

Box - 1726

a of land 214, 966 Tithables 1844

Sh. - The Brewer.

Coroners - An. Smith, Wm Wilkerson

Jos P. An. Smith, Wm Bridges,

Henry Applewhite, Jos. Godwin,

The Walton, Geo. Newberry,

The Brewer, Matt Jones, Jas. Baum

Daorum The Apple, Wm Kinchen

Hardy Council, Wm Wilkerson

John Edwards.

Bur. Henry Apple. Jos. Godwin

all of of Jos. Dingle

Land Surveyor. John Allen

For Warwicks Creek. Newport

Minister M. Barlow.

No Militia Horse 210 - foot 650

Va. H. Mag. Vol 48 - 145 -

Cs. St. an. Smith.

Set of Tobacco, Anonco.

Towns

June 29, 1680.

The Burgesses nominate
the places for the
townes in ye severall
Counties of W. Co.
at Patesfield at
ye parking of Pagan
Creek.

Vol 2. 135-

J. H. 51/3.

May 10 - 1699

I of W + Hen. Co. setting
forth that they pay too large
Quilt Rts. They (the Com)
are of the opinion that the Quilt
Rts being his May. Revenue
lie properly in his May. for
riches + therefore resolve
that the sd Quilt + profits
be united.

J. + J. 51/3. 134.

Boundaries

upon the pet. of the J of W. Bur.
in behalfe of the inhabitants of
that County, it is ordered that
3 of the corners of each County
(that is to say) of Hampshire
+ the J of W. County shall
meet at a certain time before
the next assembly to lay out
the bounds of each County
d in case of difference to
render account to the next
Assembly. 1654/55-

Vol. I - 96

J. H. 51/3.

Baker

Hendrick Wellcome Baker settled
in Surrey Co. Va, a leading citizen
who sponsored the cause of Bacon m
+ had at least Henry t. Eng. 1646-42
d. 1712 settled in 1st of W. Co Va abt
1665; Burgess 1692-93. justice of the
Orphan Court was Maj + Col mar,
Mary t. 1666 d 1734 Son of Edward
Bennet of London Eng. had at least
Henry.

pg 128 # 14.

The Magazine of Am. Gen.

Boundaries

May 13, 1706,

Ordered that Mr. Polling,
Mr. Bland, Mr. Harverson &
Mr. Edwards do prepare
& bring in a bill for
settling the dividing lines between
the Co. of P. Gile, Sunny, & W
& Hancock.

J. H. O. B. 1714-191

Census of Feb. 6, 1623-24
showed as then living at
Warwick Squire & Basse
ch. 53 persons, 26 had died
since April last. Cen. of
1624-25 showed but 31 persons
alive at War & Basse C.

In 1630 - the census
showed 5-22 persons in
the Shaw & W. In 1638
the tithables amounted to
673, which indicated
a pop. of 2019.

In 1634 plot in re-
here divided into eight Sh.

County formation

Warrior Coyack River was
changed to New Town Haven
creek. Thence to Pagan
ck. "Pagan" very originally
the name of a pt. of
land.

W-M. 7-215-

Capt. Nathaniel Barnes
from 1589 came to Va in 1622
on June 2 1620 + 21 he
with his assoc. Sir Richard
Woolley, Bart. John Hobson
Gent & Capt Chris. Lawrence
agreed with the Va Co. to
transport 100 persons to Va
& received a company of
of their old patent & plant
which was to be called the
Jale of W. Plant. Presiding of
the Va. Co. The residents
of this company were probably
recruits of the English
Jale of W. Sir Rich Woolley

Boundary June 15-1732.

Drury still Genl. Surveyor of the
W. of Brunswick marked out
the dividing lines between Brunswick
+ those of Isle of W. + Severy.

Ex J. C. n. C. Ra. 4-Page 277

master of the Inhab. in Pa. Taken in 1625.
 Total 1,095. The master of the ship
 at Warr. Co. York taken the 7th of Feb
 1625-
 The master of Mr. Edw. B. Serwants

Henry Pike came in the London March 1
1619, John Bates in the Addam 1621,
Peter Collins in the Addam 1621,

Worsell Webbling, Antonio a
negro in the James 1621, Christoph
Reynolds, Luke Chapman, Edw. May-
bank in the John & Francis 1622, John
Atkins, won Denison, Francis Barber
in the Griffin 1623, Mary a negro
woman in the Marguett & John - 1622 W.M. 7-2

a list of the names of the Singers
Feb 16, 1924 Total 1,170.

at Bacer choice. Capt Nath,
Bace, Samuel Bace, Benj. James
Thos. Sherwood, Benj. Hand Clare,
Wm Barnard, John Kelly, Nath
Moses Nath Gammon, Mary Giles,
Rich. Long, Vt Long, infame Long,
Richard Evans, Wm Newman,
John Army, Peter Langden, Henry,
Andrew, Parly, Pether Total 20

W-M-7-211

~~147~~

Boundaries 1074

Ing Wt Mance

WZ DAI-318

Boundaries

Proposition from Survey A
for ascertaining the bounds
of the ad Co. next unto
the Counties of Sale & W
& Charles City.

Aug 23 - 1701

J. H. & B. M. 3-265

Report of Com. - vizt. That
a perpendicular be raised
upon the Black W. Swamp
being reduced to a straight
line & the lines run
parallel to that perpendicular
from the head of the bridge
each county formerly allotted
to the Black W. Swamp for the
dividing lines of each county
backwards. May 21 - 1702

J. H. & B. M. 3-352

County formation

It is ordered that the six
hundred of leaden shall be
board the Bedford Hatch
sent in by his majesty. be
forthwith taken from the
boards her and distributed
to the respective Burgesses
for their Counties use. acant
to their following proposition

To 1 of W. cut 6. 2

pg 93

J. H. & B. M. 2 -

1676.

Formation

Guarance from 1 of W.
w. complaints that fines
are levied on the people
& not appropriated to the
use of the County

Ordered that the sd G. be
rejected. Aug 23 - 1701

J. H. & B. M. 3-266.

Co. Formation

Report of Com. - made upon Gun
from 1 of W. w. Complaints
that no allowance is by Law
provided for Ferry men in difference
about land or for Constables
for executing of warrants.

The house agreed to the ad report
that it is necessary a suitable
allowance be appointed in such case
ordered that it be referred to the

Coma for several of the house
to consider how much shall be allowed
for such services & how the same shall
be paid. Aug 15 - 1701

J. H. & B. M. 3-264

Boundaries

upon consideration of the report of Committee upon a proposition of the Inhabitants of the Lower Par of Isle of W. Co - That part of the upper parish of Warrimond Co. which lies within the sd county of Isle of W. may be joined to the Lower par. of Isle of W. The house agreed with the Com that the bounds of the sd par. continue as now they are settled according to the Act of Assembly made at James City the 20th day of Oct 1693 & therefore ordered the proposition be rejected.

April 25 - 1690 -

J. H. of B. rf 3 - 12

Isle of W. among other Co.
for settling ye Currency of
money in this country, the
house agreed to the report of
the Com that price of 8
pence at 5s 8d price + Dollars
at 4s 6d price. 1696.

J. H. of B. rf 3 - 67

Boundaries

The return of May Allen about
laying out the bounds of Survey
of Isle of W. Co. being referred
by The Hon Council to ye
consideration of ye house was
read. May 3 - 1765 -

J. H. of B. rf 4 - 106.

Formation May 10 - 1699
upon consideration of the report of
the Com. upon the petition from several
Inhabitants of Isle of W. & Charles C. Co.
praying that the land on the So. side
of the Blackwater may be at liberty
to be taken up & settled. This Com
concerned it to lay before the Com for
the B. W. + Pamunkey neck lands +
therefore resolved that the said
petition be referred to the sd. Com.
Ordered that it be referred to the
Com. app. to examine & make
report of the claimers & titles for the
Blackwater + Pamunkey neck lands.
J. H. of B. rf 3 - 136

Boundary

Mr. Geo. Moore Mr. Henry Baker
Capt John Goodrich to meet such
Gents as ye Courts of Semy
shall appoint to determine
Monday line Oct 1694.
D B I - 60

Col. Joseph Bridger, Mr. Haddock
+ Capt Penn & Mr. John Giles
to settle boundary between Nanamond
& this County
1694. D B I - 60

Blackwater - Southampton
Resolved That an address be
prepared to the Gov. & Council
that now one person be
permitted to take up & post
more than 400 a. of land on the
So. side of Blackwater Swamp,
when liberty shall be given to
reclaim those parts.

Ordered: That the Burgesses of
Semy, Charles City & York
Co. prepare an address accordingly
& report to the House.
Sept 30, 1695.

proposition presented by John
Goodrich & John Giles, Dec. 7
1694. & John Thompson &
The Swamp of Semy Sept 25, 1695

J. H. of B. of 3-12-18
Same Resolved on Sept 30, 1696. Mr. J. H.
Giles, Thompson, Penn & Haddock to
prepare an address accordingly

Established by bonds between ye Counties of
Nanamond & York - ye first Monday
in Nov by Mr. Woodward, Major Melner &
Mr. Arthur Allen, in their oaths or any two of
them -
Sept 31 8
D B I 318
1674.

Public Survey 1653

673 T. Thatch @ 22 P per 14,806
To 100 lbs. of powder @ 12 lb 01,200
To 270 " " shot @ 2 " 540
16,546

Pg 89.

1619-58/9

J. H. 57 B.

1715-

For the better moulding the
militia of this col + hanging
them under a more regular
discipline, the Gov. was pleased
to appoint the following persons st.
of the several Counties.

for the County of

for city } = Phil Sudwell Esq.
for w } =

Ex J. C. C. V. 1713 - 419.

May. John Page in 1676 was
ordered to build a storehouse
for receiving the powder sent
in by his most sacred majesty.
Capt Middleton proposed 6400 lbs
of beef + pork will be sufficient
supply a month for the soldiers
+ that upon notice given to the
shuffe of the w + sent to the
them of these respective justices
That the sd 2 courts in equal
rates doe provide + furnish the
the quality of 16400 lbs of beef
or pork + carry it to the sd
ladings for the supply of the 4 mo.
Pg 92.

Vol 2 - J. H. 57 B.

County Formation

John Hobson was a member of the Va. Co. of London in 1609, & in 1619 he united with Capt. Christopher Lawrence, Nathaniel Bane and others to establish the first English settlement in N. of W. Not long after he came to Va. he was Capt. & member of the Council. The last mention of him is in 1637 when he was in England & about to sail for Va. What relation he was to Tho. Hopeston who appears in the early Va. Recs is not known.

W. & M. pp. 21-139 -

upon pt. of the comtee of N. of W. concerning the recovery of diverse arrears of county & county levies yet unpaid since 1644 & the lists not recorded through the delinquency of the clk of That County. It is ordered by this present Grand Asses. That such persons as have been Sheriffs or collectors of the sd levies since 1644 & are now living forthwith bring in their several lists & accounts respectively unto the sd Co. Courts & that such persons as have been delinquent in paying the sd arrears or detaining of them in their hands be responsible for the same & upon default or denial to be recovered by distress & the parties that have pd the same be discharged from further molestation. And as for those Sheriffs or collectors that are dead their heirs are to be responsible for what shall appear due from them under this hand. p. 91 - 1649-58/9 1653

1 of 10.

The sum of all the titles
being 15162 at 89¢ pole amounts
to - 1349418. The
which is proportioned to the pd in
the several counties of this county
as followeth -

1 of 10 Co

Tithables 735 at 89¢ pole = 65415

to the Sheriff for gallery - 5947

" May on this for light 540

out for house

" Capt Applewhite for document

" a criminal - 3697

" Rich. Reynolds run away 600

200, Jacob Barden 2 ditto

" Edmund Hinton 1 " 400

" Edward Hinchson 1 " 400

To St. Cof. Tho. Miller 8000

" Cof. Wm Byrd 23697

To Capt Langhorne 2065

" Mr. Speaker 4787

" Col. Lydall 10955

" Henry Gawlor 727

65415

a list of the names of the living
in Va. bet. the 16, 1624 - Total 1,170.
at Warwickqueake.

John Batt, Henry Penffe, Wessel Witten
Anthony Cead, Francis Wotton, Henry
Phillips, Peter Collins, Ch. Reinolds,
Edward Martin, John Maldman, Tho.

Collins, Geo Rushmore, Tho. Spencer.

Geo. Clarke, Rich. Bartlett, Francis

Benke, John Jenkins, Tho. Jones, Wm

Donham, Peter Anthony, Francis

Margaret, negro, John Bennett,

Nicholas Skinner, John Atkins, John

Pollentine, Rachel Pollentine, Mary

Pollentine, Mary a maid, Henry

Woodward, Tho. Sawyer, Thomas

a boye (?). Total 33 - including

4 negroes.

W. m. - 7 - 216

Vol. 2 - pg. 178

J Ho of Bur.

1682. These following
orders of publique charge
+ levy were made.
To Mr. Allen for laying
out ye Town.
To Capt Henry Applewhite
Shuffe for ye whole charge
of Road & worse, evidence
at about ye Cumerall
Gilevis - 6237 Tst. W.

pg 172 -
Vol. 2. J. H. of B.

over

The public charge
for taking up Renewances
this present year 1682. To
Several persons, as per the
reports of the Comtee in the
Several Counties
viz. 2 sle of W 1000 Hk of
Hices.

pg 175
Vol 2 - J. H. of B.

Richd Longe his master
" " aged 33 in the
Alice " " 23 " " London March 1620
Rott " a child born in Va.
Rich. Evans - master
" " age 35 in the Neptune 1618.
Wm Newman - his master
" " a. 35 in the Turkana 1622
John Arny " 35 " " "
Denise Woodward his master
" " aged 30 in the
John Browning " 22 in the Abigail 1621
Servant
Amrose. Peter, Total master
at Bance + Wanceyouth 31.
a list of the dead in War 1624
John Selley, Nath. Hawkworth, The Skewood,
Ben. Blackcheare, Manganal Syme,
Nathaniel, Thomas, servants, of Mr
Bennetts men slayne by the Indians
Sept. 28, 1931.

a master of the 2nd. A Bance &
Fulen in 1625.
Nathaniel Bance aged 35 in the Turkana 1620
Wm Barnard " 21 " " "
Edwel. Wigg " 22 " Abigail 1620

The master of Tho. Phellye
Tho P. aged 26 in the Wm Tho 1618
Elizabeth P. " 23 " Sea flower 1621

The master of Tho. Ben
Tho. Benn aged 38 in the Neptune 1618
Mary " " 18 " " Southampton 1622
Roger Bedford " 22 in " Returne 1623
Benj. Simes 33 in " "
" " afterwar settled in E.C. Co + by
his will in 1634 provided for the first free
school in America. The funds are still
used to conduct the High S in Hampton

A petition presented to this board
by the Board of Survey & P. Geo. Co.
complaining that the Act of 1910 +
Name: refuse to give any directions
for running the div. line - let
the ed Co. on the S. side of Bl. W. SW.
as by an ordinance of accem. + an
order of the Govt + Council, thereon
hath been decided, Ord. that the
cts be ref. to give directions for
running the div. line - let the
ed. County - or that they
transmit to the Co. of their reason
for not complying with the
ed Ordinance in order to be laid
before his Ex. + the Co. for their
consideration at their next meeting.

Ex B. C. of C. 12. VI 64.

Boundary -

County name & formation.

Isle of Wight changed from Shire (Warrasquoyche) in 1634.

Va. Mag. Vol II pg. 92.

Warrasquoyche only existed from 1634-1637

Va. Counties by Robinson pg 271

Isle of Wight (1637) named after the Isle of Wight in England. at a very early date a settlement was made within the limits of this County by a company several of whose members lived in Isle of Wight (at least one of the principal patentees was certainly from Isle of Wight) Sir Richard Worsley who came over

in 1608 (Morrison's Isle of Wight County pg 50) and which was called The Isle of Wight Plantation. The Isle of Wight is an island in the English Channel. Wight means a 'channel' or 'passage'. The name means island of the channel. (Green p. 53).

Va. Counties by Robinson pg. 182.

During the summer of 1607 Smith explored down the river to Kecoughtan and across to Warrasquoyche on the south side of the river, while there several journeys were made to Paspahegh.

St. The History of Virginia

a petition of diverse of the frontier inhabitants of
the County of Isle of W. being presented and read at
the Board complaining of the great distance of
the Court House from the greater part of the said
inhabitants, and praying that the same may be
removed nearer the centre of the County. It is
ordered that the Surveyor of the said County
prepare a map of the said County describing
the place where the Court now is kept, and
the place proposed by the petitioners for erecting
a new Court House, and that the said
map be returned to the Governor to the end
his Board may be better enabled to judge
of the most convenient place for fixing the
said Court House. March 6, 1727. Va. Council Journals
Va. Hist. Magazine, Vol. 32 Page 321

acts of Gen. Ass. Jan 6, 1639-40
It is thought fitt & enacted for a
final determination of all differences between
the Isle of W. Co. & the Upper & Lower Norfolk
Co. That the I. of W. shall begin at Sawreys
mill & from thence to extend down along
the main river under the plantation of
Richard Hayes formerly belonging to John

Seward, including the sd. plantation
& families & from thence to extend
from the main River into the wood
southerly unto the plantation of Com. Howell
& M. Robert Pitt including likewise
the sd. plantation and families & from
thence southerly as aforesaid. These
bounds being sett & settled by the Consent &
& agreement of the Burgesses of sd. County
with & among 25. 1st 1643 pg. 153

Section of 1642
Whereas many differences have been & are likely
to arise through the uncertain division of the lands
of Isle of W. & Nansemond as they are set down by
act of the decem. Co. 1642: whereby it was expressed
that the land of Nanse. should stretch southerly
into the woods from the plantation of Richard Hayes
upon the main river which bounds through the
uncertainty of them have occasioned many
disputes & controversies tending to disorder & disorder
but it therefore enacted for the better understanding
& more certain knowledge of the western bounds
of the said County of Hen. That the plantation
of Rich. Hayes upon the main river shall be &
remain in the Co. of I. of W. according to the
tenor of the sd. act Co. 1642. That the whole tract
of land belonging to Mr. Hanbury shall be & remain in
the Co. of (and of Nansemond) Hen. May 23-254

County formation.

May 1702. An ordinance of assembly for settling the dividing line between the Counties of Sale & W, Charles City & Hansemond on the south side the Black Water Swamp. (Prince George formed from Charles City & accounts for the name P. Geo being substituted ^{in act} 1705 Hen. St. Vol. 3. - pg 217

Court Day appointed in Oct 1710 for Sale of Wright up on the fourth Monday in every month. Hen S. Vol. 3. - page 306.

An act for div. the Co. of Sale & W, into two distinct Counties. Oct 1748. Hen S. Vol 6 - pg 214.

An act for obliging the justices of Sale & W. to build a hedge near Black-water Swamp at Twotons. Oct 1748. Hen. S. Vol 6 - pg 210

Justices.

according to the order of the assembly the 5th of Mar 1623 of the Governor & Council it is thought fitt & accordingly ordered that the ~~present~~ Courts be held & kept in remote parts of This Colony: vizt. for the upper parts, for Warwick River for Warragoyoke, for Elizabeth City for Accomack.

Commissioners appointed. Capt Nath Bacon
Jury. Quor. Thomas Jordan Gent. Richard Bennett Gent. Com. Hutchinson, gent John Lupton Gent. Hen. Vol. 1 - 169
Sale of W. Court day 9th of every month March 1642:3 Hen. I pg. 273.

By reason of the great inconvenience occasioned by the partition of the Sale of eight Counties by Pasam creek

it is ordered that in each parish of the
ad county a monthly Court be held on the
9th day of every month successively each
parish still continuing equally relative
to the Commissioners of the County in
general & that the Commrs of each
parish appoint places convenient for the
holding of the Courts aforesaid
March 31, 1655. H. Vol. I pg 409.

ordered, that the order of assembly
permitting the Commissioners if that
Isle of W. Co to keep two Courts, be
revoked, made void & null, and
that they keep only one court, and that
to be held at the usual place as
before the Courts were divided. Mar. 13 -

H. S. Vol. I - pg 550.

1659-60

Sept 15, 1663
John Pitt produced certificate that he had
built a vessel of 28 tons in I of W Co. The
assembly ordered him the encouragement & accord
H. II. Vol. I. 169

Secondary of Isle of Wight & Hen. Sept 26. 1674
that a Southwest & by South line be designed
runne & plainly marked from the river side
at the plantation of Hayes (Hayes now Ruffed
Island) including that plantation to the Isle of W
extending to the creek at or near the plantation called
Newell's Oysterbark, from thence a line
or line up the creeks to Col Pitts creek &
run up that creek to the head of the ad Col Pitt
land and from thence a southwest half
a point westerly line ... deffinitely extended
shall be & retaining the boundary the
common bank & divide line between the said
I of W & H. Cos. Provided nevertheless that
the houses & cleared grounds of Capt
Thos Goddard who hath been & present
inhabitant of Nanjemund Co Court, be,
remains certified & decreed in the Co
of Nanjemund - H. Vol II. pg 318.

after 1733 - parts of Survey & Isle of W. added
to Brunswick H. Vol 4 pg 356

Nov. 10, 1769 - Part of Nanjemund added to Isle
of Wight by day churchlands creek to the mouth
of Chick. Bay. Hen. Vol. 8. 405-

County Formation/

Northumberland Oct. 1648

York, formerly
Charles River Co.

Westmoreland 1653

Lancaster 1651/2

Old Rappahannock 1656

Essex 1692

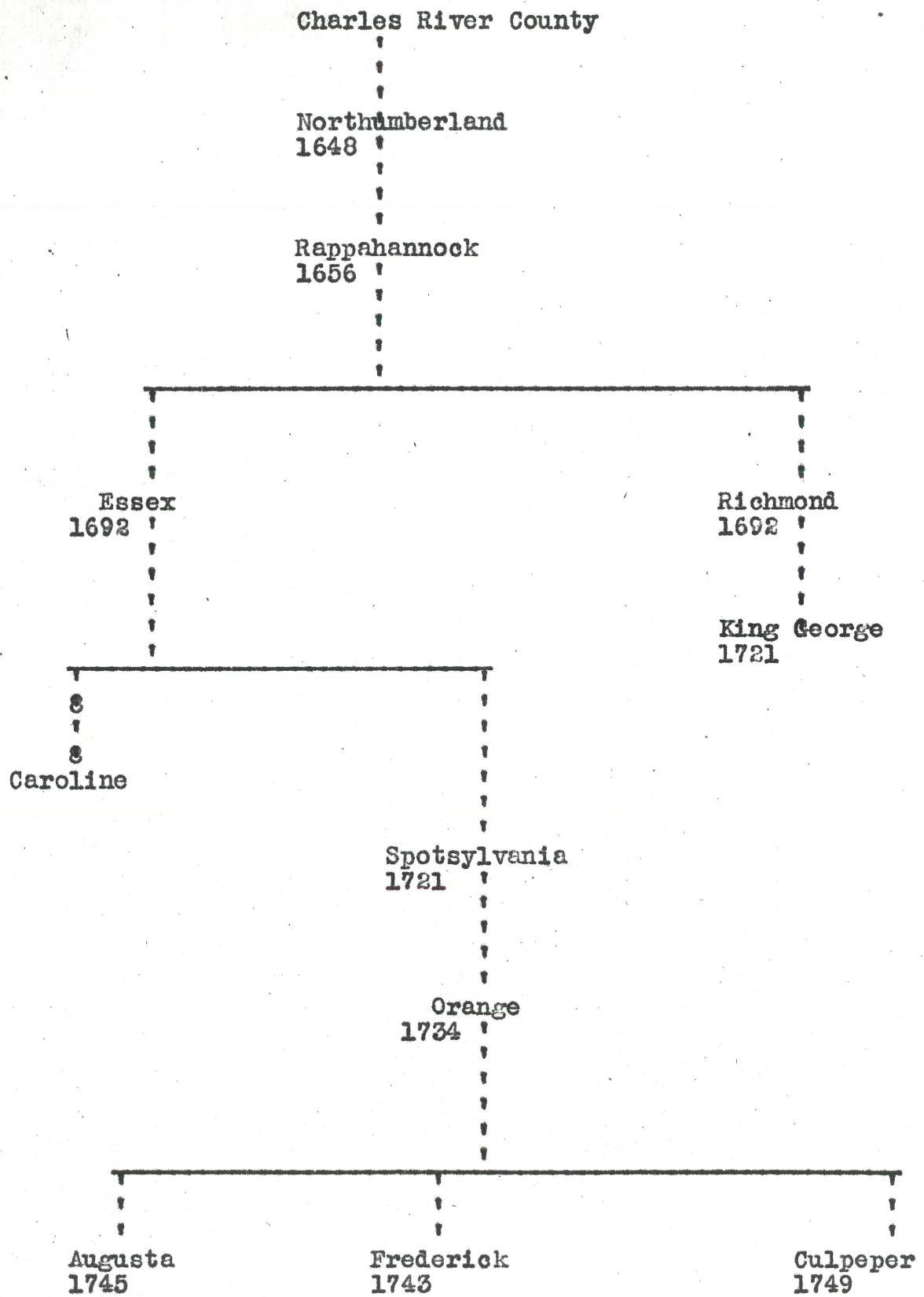
Richmond 1692

Stafford

King George 1721

Prince William 1731

Fauquier 1759



Petition — "pt. wh. became Soh."
(as per Mrs. Chapman)

1722

To his Hon^d Hugh Bredale, Gov^r Commander
in Chief of the Colonia of Va & the Hon^{ble} the
Council, the outward Inhabitanes of the Co of
I of W - Assembly,
Sheweth, That whereas your petitioners live at
great distance from where vessels come for
trading, & having water navigable for vessels to
come very convenient to us in the outward part of
ye County, and several other places, thereunto
adjoining the rivers are called by name
Blackwater & Pot. River - They issue out of
North - Carolina Inlet, and having every fair
prospect of these coming to us, coming as
near as the limited bounds bet Carolina &
Va would allow them: By reason now officers
placed in that part of Colonia, dare not come
further, now as it is, may it please your
Hon^d to grant us the favor of having officers
placed convenient for that part of the Colonia,
that we may have the same liberty &
convenience of other parts of the Colonia, &
be in great measure eased of the burden
we now lie under - and we desire your

of us - humbly,
sheweth, that whereas your petitioners live at
great distance from where vessels come for
trading, & having water navigable for vessels to
come very convenient to us in the outward part of
ye County, and several other places, thereunto
adjoining the rivers are called by name
Blackwater & Hot. River - They issue out of
North-Carolina Inlet, and having every fair
prospect of these coming to us, coming as
near as the limited bounds bet Carolina &
Va would allow them: By reason now officers
placed in that part of Virginia, dare not come
further, now as it is, may it please your
Hon^{rs} to grant us the favor of having officers
placed convenient for that part of the Colonia,
that we may have the same liberty &
convenience of other parts of the Colonia, &
be in great measure eased of the burden
we now lie under - and we desire your
Honors welfare and shall forever be bound for
your Hon^{rs} to pray etc.

The Doctrs,

John Drake

Wm. Hickman

Nich. Williams

The X atty

John Barnes

Joe Burr, Nath Jones, Geo Washington
Rott Scott, John Barnes Jr. David Burr,
John Mayo, John Sells, John Drake Jr,
Chas. Reynolds - John Carter, Wm Harris,
Rich Drake Jr. - John Davis, Jas Edwards
& others. (had spelling in paper).

cat. of State P. vol 1 - 203-4.

Pet - pt wh. became Sth.

cat. of State P. vol 1 - 203-4.

Pet - p wh. became Sth.

A Comprehensive Story of Isle of Wight County

(By Julia Abbott Culler)

One interested in looking up particulars about the earliest settlements in the southeastern section of Virginia will glean just enough information from Henning's Statutes at Large to pique his curiosity: "In 1634. The Country divided into 8 shires, which are to be governed as shires in England." From other available sources he will be able to learn that three of these original shires extended on both sides of the James River - the shires of James City, Charles City and Elizabeth City; that a third lay wholly on the south of the James, that it extended from "Chuckatuck Creek to Lawne's Creek, and contained 522 inhabitants." Put in words more intelligible to the general reader, the shire wholly on the south side of the river then called "Warrosquoyacke" - extended from the James River on the northeast to the North Carolina Line on the southeast, and indefinitely westward. That it contained so many as 522 inhabitants, and that one of its boundaries was Lawne's Creek, links it at once with Lawne's Plantation, one of the eleven Plantations that, in 1619, at the call of Sir George Yeardley, elected two representatives to the first representative assembly in America.

The "Plantations" were communities of the early colonists - often widely separated - who for mutual aid and protection lived in a single location. These communities or plantations, were the forerunners of the larger shires, or counties, whose names and areas were to be matters of change and readjustment as population grew and as the settlements spread westward.

"Warrosquoyacke" - its English significance is a "swamp in a depression of land" - is an Indian name, that of a tribe of the Powhatan confederacy which once lived within the limits of the present Isle of Wight County. Their village was near what is now Fergusson's Wharf, on Burwell's Bay; their hunting grounds extended some five miles along the James River and twenty miles inland. However, fortunate it is for modern tongues that the Indian name persisted but three years, it is a pity that none so much as a name held in memory the tribe that befriended Captain John Smith and his needy colonists, even though, in the great massacre of 1622, no

hand was more stained with the blood of white settlers than was that of the Chief of this tribe, the very man who had befriended Smith. In 1608, the chief furnished bushels of corn for the famishing colonists at Jamestown; in December of the same year Smith and his party spent the night at the Warrosquoyacke village, and two of the party tarried with the chief.

In 1637 "Warrosquoyacke" was re-named Isle of Wight, probably because Isle of Wight, off the coast of England, was the early home of some of the patentees in this particular shire.

One must not pass unnoticed the meaning of the Indian name "a swamp in a depression of land". In Isle of Wight County swamps are legion, and their significance is in their marketable value. So numerous are they that "there is scarcely a farm in the description of whose metes and bounds the expression of 'up the said swamp', or 'down the said swamp' does not occur".

It is remarkable that locations, dates and names of the earliest settlers should be so definitely known. The first English settlement was made by Christopher Lawne and his associates, in 1619, at the mouth of the creek that still bears his name. He brought with him one hundred settlers, among whom was Nathaniel Basse, who, in 1621, established another settlement as "Basse's Choice" on Pagan River. In 1622, Edward Bennett, a rich merchant of London, in partnership with his brother Robert and his nephew Richard Bennett - the latter became Governor of Virginia in 1652 - came with one hundred and twenty settlers and established themselves at a place on the James River still known as "The Rocks". These settlements were planted almost on the eve of the great Indian massacre of 1622, when, in a few hours some hundreds of the twelve hundred and forty settlers living in the settlements on the north and on the south sides of the James were killed. Fifty-three of those massacred were settlers in Isle of Wight.

Despite Indian outrages and consequences grievous enough, Anglo-Saxon determination had its way; a few months later the Warrosquoyackes were harried out of their settlements, their habitations and

Continued on Page 3.

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The rather recent restoration has been done with such deep understanding and sympathy that nothing of the original beauty, design and character has been lost. The brick walls were of great thickness, the roof was of enduring cy- press shingles, and the mortar made of native sand mixed with burnt oyster shell lime. The church is believed to have been begun in 1632 by Joseph Bridger. How long after completion it was the chief gathering place for the settlement round about it; whether the settlement ceased to flourish, whether Benn's Church the most notable Methodist Church of the section, fed upon the disintegration of "Old Brick Church", it is known that the place was little used after the Revolution, and wholly abandoned in 1830. Its restoration was begun in 1890.

Within the church is a marble slab removed from the grave of the Honorable Bridger, son of the builder of "Old Brick Church". The grave is on "White Marsh Farm", so named in Colonel Bridger's will of 1683, a wife and a half from the old church. That Colonel Bridger was the most prominent man of his day is attested by many old records. Among these is that of 1676 - "His surrender is demanded by Nathaniel Bacon, Jr." Bridger headed the followers of Governor Berkeley. He was "forced to fly in the heat of war from his own country, yet on his return was very active and instrumental in reducing to their obedience the South parte of James River". An endorsement attached to a copy of the inscription on Bridger's tomb would seem to explain why he was so hotly pursued by Bacon's forces; "Inscription on the tomb of the Hon. Joseph Bridger, Paymaster to the British troops in America during Bacon's Rebellion, in the reign of Charles the Second of England".

Active political life of the present Isle of Wight seems to have begun with the removal of the courthouse from its location on what was once the Glebe Farm, two miles west of Smithfield, to Smithfield. Here, in one of the new buildings erected for county business, the priceless records of the county, some of the oldest in America, were deposited for safe keeping. During the Revolution Tarleton's British troopers made a raid on Smithfield for the purpose

There will be a musical at the Bacon's Castle Church Thursday night, at 8.15. The concert will be by Richmond talent Mrs. Grace Cosby soloist of the First south's favorite soloist of the First Richmond, Va., West, coloratura West, tenor accompanist der the 2 Class

A COMPREHENSIVE STORY OF ISLE OF WIGHT CO.

(Continued From Page One)

1931 their cleared fields becoming the possessions of the English victors. The records show that four years later the colony entered upon a prosperous era, and that a continuous stream of immigrants to whom patents were granted had its beginning about that date. In 1635, the census showed 522 inhabitants; that of 1658 showed a population of 2,019. A valued county possession are the ancient records in the land office - "Land Grants" to men and to women as early as 1623. To Martha Key, wife of Thomas Key there was a grant of 150 acres lying on the easterly side of Warrasquoyacke River, opposite the land of Captain Nathaniel Basse; to George Hardy there was a grant of 350 acres on Lawrence's Creek; "bordering on Alice Bennett's land***". George Hardy was probably the first settler to build a grist-mill. His mill was standing as early as 1646; and known as Hardy's Mill, it became famous locally. A mill is still there, but it is known as "Wrenn's Old Mill".

A great feature of the early life in the old shire was the building of "Old Brick Church", which stands near the highway between Suffolk and Smithfield. This is one of the oldest churches in the United States - perhaps the very oldest retaining its original walls - and one of that remarkable series of old churches "ten or twelve miles apart from the lower end of Norfolk County to and beyond the Appomattox". Most of these old churches have long since dis-

for speaking of it as the home of the "Smithfield Ham." The supply of this most excellent product never reaches the demand. The packing house of E. M. Todd and Company has been in continuous business for more than 150 years. One invoice in possession of the present proprietors, dated April 30, 1779, is for hams furnished Ellerton and John Perrot on the Island of St. Eustatius, West Indies, by Mallory Todd, Smithfield, Virginia. The foundation logs of a continuous line of wharves, occupying the entire waterfront of Smithfield, bear witness to the large export trade the town commanded directly with England and with the West Indies, as well as a coast-wise trade from Maine to Florida. Many of the old houses were built over brick-lined cellars, the storage place of pork products. The act of Incorporation by which Smithfield, in 1752, was made a town by law, names Arthur Smith as the agent whereby this forward move was made. The following year his wife, Elizabeth Smith, purchased a lot and built on it a small school house that a few indigent children might be sent to school. From 1753 to 1788, this building served its purpose as a school; it was then conveyed to the Masonic fraternity. As a Masonic Lodge it has been in continuous use for 143 years, the second oldest building dedicated to that purpose in Virginia. Smithfield is an odd mixture of the past and present; pride in its historic past makes it hold on to landmarks and traditions—the enduring foundation of the busy life that make this town of 1500 people so well known, and so unique.

tempt that was foiled by the foresight and ingenuity of the wife of Deputy Clerk, Francis Young, who was absent with his regiment. Mrs. Young had removed the records to a nearby farm where they were buried in a box enclosed in a "hair trunk" and not unearthed until after the surrender at Yorktown. Again, during the War between the States, the old records were removed for safer keeping to Greensville County and then to Brunswick and again returned to their rightful home without loss.

The agricultural life of the county a continuous thing from the days of early settlement to the present, has undergone some changes. Tobacco was, of course, in the early days the principal crop - practically the only crop until over-production brought disaster and an enforced willingness to produce something else. Then came experiments with corn and cotton and peanuts, the last having come to be a crop of importance since 1866. Isle of Wight is now in the center of the great peanut belt, and "goober peas" are the money crop of the county. One hundred bushels to the acre is not an excessive production.

Historic Smithfield was made a town by law in 1752; but for a century it had been a considerable settlement enjoying an active trade. Its export trade was established long before the coming of railroads, or even the advent of steamboats; such craft as went out upon the high seas in the second quarter of the eighteenth century "cared" at Smithfield for the exchange of commodities. Among the out-going shipments was bacon—an early trade that has grown into the world famous packin house industry of Smithfield. The historic of town asks no apology

ent, beautiful within and without still stands. Already hoary with age, it looked down on Tarleton's British troops who, in 1781, rested in the shade of its venerable oaks and on the militia of 1812 bivouacked in its grove; it fostered the preaching of Lorenzo Dow, it watched over the tense gatherings of men waiting for news from the front - from Richmond encompassed by a hostile army. It stands alone in its setting of great oaks, far from any considerable group of homes; the very isolation of this splendid old edifice but adds to its dignity.

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situated at the head of Pagan River—a stream that empties its waters into James River—rich cargoes of hams and peanuts are carried out by their combined currents. Apart from its commercial life and its historic importance, Smithfield is a delightful residential town in easy touch with Norfolk by a line of boats on the Pagan River.

MUSICAL CONCERT AT
BACON'S CASTLE
BAPTIST CHURCH

Mr. "Tom" Turner, the wonderful host of Shoal Bay, where all guests, be they high or low degree, from the north, south, east or west, are made a part of the home through the gracious reception given by Mr. Turner and his mother, has given us the following data regarding the history of Shoal Bay, one of our beauty spots in Isle of Wight:

Shoal Bay was included in a great land grant to William Burnett, a wealthy merchant out of London in 1621. Its northwest boundary marked the limit in that direction to this patent. It descended to his daughter, Sylveston, who bequeathed the property to her dear friend, Mary Baker. The Bakers first established a house at Shoal Bay and presumably gave it its name. Being a family of distinction they set up quiet an establishment for those days and were themselves among the gentry.

Shoal Bay for many years was retained by the Bakers, and finally passed into the Cockes family. They too as you know, were a distinguished family, some of them sitting in the House of Burgesses. Shoal Bay had suffered possibly, more than any other settlement, except at Rocky Wharf, in the Indian Massacre.

The Baker family undertook the beautification of Shoal Bay in terracing, planting and formal gardening. It is the attempts at formal gardening in Virginia, the idea being brought from England.

The beautiful old church, (Episcopal of course), known as the Bay Church, was built in 1645, was on Shoal Bay. Bishop Meade in his history of early churches in Virginia speaks of it. After the Revolutionary War, when such a violent anti-English feeling existed in the commonwealth when the Episcopal Church nearly passed out of existence, the rise of the Methodist and Baptist churches then too following the Bay Church was abandoned and one of the Cockes family brought the bricks into his yard from the church, and set up a house, which yet is standing. Mr. Cockes further desecrated this sanctuary by utilizing the wood work converting it into a horse stable, which no sooner erected, was set fire to by lightning and burned to the ground.

Just when the ascendancy of the Wrenn family begins. I didn't know, but this ownership was not for so many years, I am lead to believe. Of course you know they were most highly respected, of cavalier stock and kin to Sir Christopher Wrenn, the famous architect.

I believe they had really the only house in Isle of Wight that could lay claim to great proportions, having all the aspects of a Manor House.

During the War Between The States the federal fleet bombarded Shoal Bay, came ashore and burned and destroyed ruthlessly, but spared the beautiful old mansion, Mr. Virginius Wrenn then home on a furlough, made good his escape in the thick boxwood trees.

Old Fort Boykin, sometimes called Fort Star on account of the format of the moat which is that of a seven pointed star, is located on the south miles above Newport News and about four and a half miles from Smithfield. It was built during the Civil War on the site of a small fort that was used during the war of 1812.

In the Civil War a small company was stationed there. Gun boats proceeding up the river after the battle of the Monitor and Merrimac fired on the fort but finding that their guns were inadequate to return the fire they were forced to evacuate.

Purchased by Mr. W. T. Green in 1908 it has been restored and preserved for future generations.

It is now a wonderful dream of beauty with its velvety lawns, curving rocks, put in by its present owner, these edged with flowering shrubs, its unique wild garden, in which are gathered together almost all of the wonderful flowers, plants and trees to be found in the woods or marshes of this part of Virginia. The uninformed would be much surprised to see the vast number of these plants which Mr. Green has transplanted from nearby woods to this Wild Garden in the Old Fort. Within the persents of the Wild Garden, this energetic owner has now established a water garden, with many varieties of lilies and other water plants, gold and silver fish darting in and out from under the rustic bridge add to the charm of this spot.

The Summer House, quaint in design and comfortable as well as beautiful in furnishings is on the bank overlooking the James, as well as Burwell's Bay, and so situated to catch all the breezes most grateful in summer.

There is a Lover's Lane within the Fort, and the Garden. I left the garden until the last because it is so beautiful I felt it should be last, and now I find that words of mine are tactfully inadequate to describe its beauties.

Planned and planted under original designs of the hostess of Old Fort Boykin, it is such a beautiful sight, with its narrow walks edged with violets, or other low growing flowers, its arches of roses, its lilies perfuming the air, as well as gratifying the eye, its peonies, its dahlias, its chysanthemums, its zennias, so wonderful you wonder if they are zinnias, such a riot of color and yet all so perfectly blended it seems some master artist must have added his brush there.

Do not for one moment believe that I have told you all the flowers in that garden, nor all the beauties to be seen within the outlines of Old Fort Boykin. It is small wonder that it is included as one of the ports of call in the pilgrimage the Garden Clubs of Virginia are planning for this spring. and I am

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A few years later this lovely old house was burned to the ground and Mr. Charles Wrenn sold it to my grandfather, Richard Randolph Turner, who passed it to my father, Dr. William Dandridge Turner and from whom I inherited it.

We have lived here for about fifty years, as the property was bought in 1877.

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The first English settlement in Isle of Wight County was made by Captain Christopher Lawne and Sir Richard Worsley, knight baronet, and their associates, viz.: Nathaniel Basse, gentleman; John Hobson, gentleman; Anthony Olevan, Richard Wiseman, Robert Newland, Robert Gyner and William Willis.

On April 27, 1619, they arrived at Jamestown, with one hundred settlers, in a ship commanded by Captain Evans. They immediately settled near the mouth of a creek on the south side of the James River, still known as Lawne's Creek (sometimes improperly written Lyon's Creek), which was, in 1642, made the dividing line between this county and Surry County.

Captain Lawne and Ensign Washer represented the settlement known as Lawne's plantations in the first House of Burgesses, which met at Jamestown on the 30th day of July, 1619.

It seems to be a fact that all new settlements are unhealthy, and this proved to be remarkably so; for within about a year Captain Lawne died, and four-fifths of those he brought with him also, and the London Company, November 30, 1620, ordered that:

"In regard of the late mortality of the persons transported heretofore by the late Captain Lawne, his associates be granted till midsummer, 1625, to make up the number of persons they were disposed to bring." It also declared that the plantation was to be henceforth called Isle of Wight Plantation, for which change of name we are very thankful, on account of spelling and pronouncing its former name, which it took from the tribe of Warrosquoycake Indians. We find this name spelled in every conceivable way, some of them being Warrosquoyke, Warrosqueak, Warrasquoyke; nevertheless, it was several years before the new name of Isle of Wight was in general use among the colonists. This name was given it, very probably because the famous "Isle of Wight" off the coast of England had been the home of some of the principal patentees; at least, one of them was certainly from Isle of Wight—Sir Richard Worsley, who came over in 1608.

Many of the early settlers were of cavalier origin, and came from the city of Bristol, England, and its vicinity, and for many years, as shown by the old records, the "Bristol ships" made frequent trading voyages to this county, bringing with them, at every trip, batches of emigrants.

On November 21, 1621, Edward Bennett, a rich merchant of London, was granted a patent for a plantation upon the condition of settling two hundred emigrants. Associated with him in that patent were his brother, Robert Bennett, and his nephew, Richard Bennett, Thomas Ayres, Thomas Wiseman and Richard Wiseman; and in February, 1622, the "Sea Flower" arrived with one hundred and twenty settlers, under command of Captain Ralph Hamor, one of the Council. Among them were Rev. William Bennett and George Harrison, kinsmen of Edward Bennett. Their place of settlement was called Warrosquoyacke, or sometimes "Edward Bennett's Plantation," and was located at the place on James River known as the "Rocks," the estate of the late Dr. John W. Lawson, who for many years represented this county in the General Assembly of the State, the Second Congressional District in Congress, and this county in the late Constitutional Convention.

On the day the patent last mentioned was granted, Arthur Swaine, Captain Nathaniel Basse and others, undertook to establish another plantation in the same neighborhood. Captain Bass

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The government of these shires or counties was modeled upon that in England. Lieutenant Colonels were appointed and commanded the troops in the wars with the Indians. Sheriffs, sergeants and bailiffs were elected; and, until 1691, every freeman was entitled to a vote, and indentured servants, at the expiration of their term of service, were allowed to do the same. In 1628-29 commissioners were appointed and required to hold monthly meetings in the different shires or counties; hence, the origin of the

county courts.

The original boundaries of the county of Worrosquoyacke, or Isle of Wight, were: Northerly, by Lawnes Creek; Easterly, by James River as far as the plantation of Richard Hayes, formerly John Howard's; the southern boundary by certain creeks to the head of Colonel Pitt's Creek (this proved somewhat uncertain), and westerly into the woods indefinitely. In 1656, upon the petition of the inhabitants of Ragged Island and Terascoe Neck, then in Nansemond county, they were put into Isle of Wight.

A long dispute arose between the counties of Isle of Wight and Nansemond, continuing until 1674, when, by an Act of the General Assembly (then called the House of Burgesses), the boundaries were established as they now are, viz.: "That a south-west by south line be designed, runned and plainly marked from the river side of the plantation of Hayes, extending to the creek at or near the plantation called Nevill Oyster Bank; thence a line or lines up Col. Pitt's Creek to the head of his lands; thence in a southwest half a point westerly line * * *"

The county is thirty-seven miles in length and an average breadth of eleven miles, with an area of about three hundred and fifty square miles. It extends from 36° 38' to 37° 07' north latitude and from 0° 2' to 0° 36' longitude east from Washington. The land dips to the northeast from a plateau a little west of Bethel Church, and from that same plateau it dips to the northwest and west; the former, by many swamps, ravines and creeks, conveys its water to James River; the latter, by the same means, conveys its water to the Blackwater (formerly Indian) River and the Nansemond River.

In 1732 a considerable portion of the northwestern part of the county was added to Brunswick county; and in 1748 the entire county of Southampton was carved out of it. This large county, from 1734, has been known as the Nottoway Parish of Isle of Wight.

In 1635 the population of this county was five hundred and twenty-two. In 1658 the population was about two thousand and nineteen.